

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Lane closures along Torrence Avenue over Grand Calumet River Bridge

CHICAGO—The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) announced that lane closures are necessary along Torrence Avenue over the Grand Calumet River (approximately 1 mile south of 130th Street) in the City of Chicago starting, weather permitting, Wednesday, May 20.

During a routine bridge inspection, deterioration of the main truss members was discovered. In order to ensure the safety of the traveling public, the right lane in both the northbound and southbound directions will be closed and the bridge posted for 15 Tons while the inspection is completed, and an analysis of the structure is performed.

Once the analysis of the truss members is complete, the Department will evaluate repair options, to allow us to reopen the traffic lanes. Ultimately, the replacement of this structure is included in the Department's FY 2016-2021 Proposed Highway Improvement Program.

Since Torrence Avenue is not a designated truck route, a truck detour will not be posted for the 15 Ton restriction. Trucks should seek alternate routes, such as the Bishop Ford Expressway, or possibly Burnham Ave to the east.

The bridge over the Grand Calumet River, which has an Average Daily Traffic (ADT) total of about 12,700, should be fully open to traffic once repairs are complete.

Motorists can expect delays and should allow extra time for trips through this area. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to flaggers and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits and be on the alert for workers and equipment.

Find details on other construction projects in IDOT's District 1 at http://goo.gl/upgvZu. Updates on the impacts to traffic are available at www.travelmidwest.com.